

***NEWS FROM NORTH DAKOTA'S CONGRESSIONAL  
DELEGATION***

**Senator Kent  
CONRAD**

**Senator Byron  
DORGAN**

**Congressman Earl  
POMEROY**

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**President Signs Disaster Declaration**  
***Flooded Fargo and GF Areas to Receive FEMA Aid***

**Washington** – U.S. Senators Kent Conrad and Byron Dorgan and Congressman Earl Pomeroy announced that the President signed a disaster declaration late Tuesday for flooded portions of Eastern and Northeastern North Dakota, opening the way for federal funding to assist recovery efforts.

“We asked the President to act quickly, and he did. Our disaster request was approved just one day after it was made. We’re grateful the White House recognizes the people of North Dakota need help, and need it right now,” the delegation said in a joint statement. “This money will help residents and businesses cover the costs of repair and recovery for yet another disaster.”

With a presidential declaration, the state is eligible for emergency assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other federal agencies. The delegation sent a joint letter to the White House urging immediate action on the disaster assistance request yesterday.

Governor Ed Schafer requested the declaration on Monday. The state request is necessary for a presidential declaration and is based on preliminary damage assessments by FEMA and the state Division of Emergency Management.

Portions of eastern and northeastern North Dakota were hit with a series of fierce thunderstorms starting June 12. The heavy rains wiped out thousands of acres of crops, many previously suffering from drought. The rain flooded and washed out streets, and damaged thousands of homes in Fargo and many smaller communities up and down the Red River Valley. The storms also caused tens of millions of dollars in damage to North Dakota State University and the Fargodome.

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